



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

HEADQUARTERS MARINE CORPS AIR STATION MIRAMAR
PO BOX 452000
SAN DIEGO CA 92145-2000

StaO 1500.1A

G-3T

01 APR 2002

STATION ORDER 1500.1A

From: Commanding General
To: Distribution List

Subj: MARINE COMBAT WATER SURVIVAL TRAINING (MCWST)

Ref: (a) MCO 1500.52B
(b) NAVPERS 15560
(c) OPNAVINST 3710.7S
(d) MCO 1553.1B
(e) Memorandum of Understanding 5000 G1 of 2 Oct 2001

Encl: (1) General Administrative Instructions
(2) Sample Copy of Orders to MCWST
(3) Required Gear List for Training
(4) NAVMC 11209 (7-91) Instructor's Course Record (1500)
(5) MCWST Facility Winter Training Schedule
(6) MCWST Facility Summer Training Schedule

1. Purpose. To provide policy and instructions concerning individual combat water survival training.

2. Cancellation. StaO 1500.1.

3. Summary of Revision. This revision is a realignment of survival skills within the respective qualification levels to compliment the building block approach to training and to reduce redundancy in testing, per reference (a). Combat Water Survival (CWS) classifications CWS4 and CWS3 emphasize personal survival, while CWS2, CWS1, and Water Survival Qualified (WSQ) emphasize the ability to assist/rescue others. The ultimate goal for all Marines is to qualify at the highest level of their ability if possible, achieving WSQ. This Order highlights the major change in reference (a), that all personnel, regardless of age, rank, or time in service, must obtain and maintain a valid swim qualification throughout their career. This Order also specifies the role of the unit Commanding Officer, and the Combat Water Survival Facility Staff.

4. Information

a. The inherent nature of Marine Corps operations and training requires that Marines have the ability to survive in the water. Combat water survival training is designed to reduce the

fear of water, instill self-confidence, and develop each Marine's ability to survive in the water under possible combat conditions. The object of combat water survival training is to teach the individual Marine how to survive under any aquatic condition.

b. MCWST policy and instructions are provided in reference (a).

c. Marine Corps' water survival training requirements were developed in conjunction with the American Red Cross (ARC) and reflect the standard Navy swimmer training qualifications contained in references (b) and (c).

5. Policy

a. Per reference (a), **all personnel, regardless of age, rank, or time in service, must obtain and maintain a valid swim qualification throughout their career.** Marines with current swim qualification are encouraged to re-qualify and upgrade their swim status. The minimum qualification level for all Marines is Combat Water Survival, Fourth Class (CWS4). All Marines (Active and Reserve Components) will qualify/re-qualify per the following guidelines:

- UNQ - Remedial swim training until qualified
- CWS4 - Minimum qualification requirement for enlisted Marines; Re-qualify every year.
- CWS3 - Re-qualify every two years.
- CWS2 - Minimum qualification requirement for officers; Re-qualify every three years.
- CWS1 - Re-qualify every four years.
- WSQ - Re-qualify every six years.

b. All Marines will re-qualify per guidelines set forth in subparagraphs 5a and 5c of reference (a). Requalification must take place prior to the expiration date of the current level. To attain a higher qualification, a Marine must qualify at the next higher level prior to current level expiration date. If a Marine fails to requalify at the next higher level, the current level will remain in force until the expiration date. The Marine is considered to be unqualified and must requalify at CWS4 if:

(1) The current level expiration date has lapsed.

(2) The Marine is unable to re-qualify at current level.

c. Qualification and re-qualification for each separate level will be accomplished during one continuous training period and will not deviate from the published course's sequence of events.

d. Marines unable to participate/pass the required qualification testing as a result of a limited duty status at the time of the officially scheduled testing will complete testing sixty days upon returning to full duty.

6. Qualification Standards and Training Guidelines. Qualification standards and test procedures are described in enclosure (2) of reference (a). Survival classification, abbreviations, and applicability are set forth in subparagraph 7a through 7e of reference (a). The abbreviations prescribed will be used for service, medical and training record entries as required, citing reference (a) as the authority.

7. Action

a. All Marine Corps commands and activities aboard Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Miramar will conduct Combat Water Survival Training at the Marine Combat Water Survival Training Facility, located across from the station theater. The Facility staff is responsible for conducting testing for the advancement of skill levels to include qualification/re-qualification requirements.

b. As set forth in reference (a), unit commanders will assign a member of their command the collateral duty of Marine Combat Instructor of Water Survival (MCIWS). In accordance with reference (e), the Commanding General, 3d Marine Aircraft Wing (3d MAW) will provide two Marines (E-4 and E-5), currently assigned the collateral duty of MCIWS on a six month rotating billet at the Combat Water Survival Facility, as part of the Fleet Assistance Program.

c. MCIWS training will be coordinated through the Assistant Chief of Staff (AC/S), G-3, Training. Marines will not be assigned under the Fleet Assistance Program to the Water Survival Training Facility until the AC/S, G-1, 3d MAW gives final approval.

d. Combat Water Survival Training is conducted throughout the calendar year. The Water Survival Training Facility is responsible for administering swim re-qualification and training. Commanding Officers are responsible for ensuring that personnel in their command maintain valid swim certification. Commanding Officers will send personnel who require certification/re-certification, or remedial training to the Combat Water Survival Training Facility in accordance with enclosures (2) and (3), and at the times prescribed in enclosures (5) and (6).

e. It is the responsibility of the unit Commanding Officer to ensure personnel who do not have or failed to obtain current swim certification, be assigned to a command supervised remedial swim program until valid certification is attained, unless exempt by reasons set forth in reference (a). In accordance with subparagraph 11i and 11k of reference (a), the unit Commanding Officer is responsible for ensuring Marines assigned to the remedial swim program report to the Combat Water Survival Training Facility as directed in subparagraph 7d above.

f. The Combat Water Survival Facility Staff will be responsible for training Marines assigned to unit remedial swim programs, the facility staff will ensure these personnel receive remedial training until they can pass the requirements set forth in reference (a), for certification at the individual's required level. The Combat water Survival Facility staff will conduct remedial training for all levels of water survival certification at the times prescribed in enclosures (5) and (6).

g. Commands are encouraged to incorporate swim training as part of their regular unit physical fitness programs.

h. Commanders are encouraged to incorporate sustainment training for all Marines into their annual/monthly/weekly training schedules.

i. Commanders or their designated representatives will approve Marine Combat Water Survival qualifications/waivers/certifications before entry into the MCTFS.

j. Record keeping requirements will be accomplished using the NAVMC 11209 (Rev 3-95), Instructor's Course Record form consistent with enclosure (4).

StaO 1500.1A

k. The AC/S G-3, Training will ensure that the Marine Combat Water Survival Facility Staff keep an appropriate record of training, and properly notify Commanders upon the completion of certification of members of their command for any level of Combat Water Survival. The Marine Combat Water Survival Facility Staff will use the NAVMC 11209 as stated in subparagraph 7j.

8. Concurrence. The Commanding General, 3d MAW concurs with the provisions of this Order.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. L. Goodman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

G. L. GOODMAN
Chief of Staff

DISTRIBUTION: A



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION MIRAMAR
P O BOX 452001 SAN DIEGO CA 92145-2001

StaO 1500.1A Ch 1

G-3T

13 DEC 2002

STATION ORDER 1500.1A Ch 1

From: Commanding General

To: Distribution List

Subj: MARINE COMBAT WATER SURVIVAL TRAINING (MCWST)

Encl: (1) New Page Inserts to StaO 1500.1A

1. Purpose. To direct pen changes and insert new enclosures to the basic Order.

2. Action

a. On the letterhead page, delete Reference (e). On page 3, line out paragraph 7b in its entirety and replace with the following paragraph; "As set forth in reference (a), the Commanding Officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron is responsible for providing one (1) SNCO, and five (5) NCO's on a permanent basis to facilitate training for the Air Station." On page 3, delete paragraph 7c in its entirety. On pages 4 and 5, renumber subparagraphs 7d through 7K to read 7c through 7j. In subparagraph 7d, last line, change subparagraph 7d to read 7c. In subparagraph 7j, last line, change subparagraph 7j to read 7i.

b. Remove enclosures (5) and (6) and replace with corresponding enclosures contained in the enclosure.

3. Filing Instructions. File this Change Transmittal directly behind the signature page of the basic Order.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. L. Goodman".

G. L. GOODMAN
Chief of Staff

DISTRIBUTION: A

GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

1. Upon approval by Commanding Officers, or a designated representative, Marine Combat Water Survival qualification/waiver/certification will be recorded in the Marine Corps Total Force System (MCTFS). These entries will consist of a one-digit code, which will represent one of the following: Swim qualification, swim/medical waiver, or instructor certification plus a four-digit number for expiration date (YYMM).
2. Marine Combat Water Survival qualification entries will also be made in the medical record of personnel on flight status and those designated as SCUBA divers. Flight status entries will be made per the Manual of Medical Department, Chapter 16-50. SCUBA entries will be made on NAVMED FORM 6150/2 (Rev 4-70, Medical History-Special Duty Extract) in the boxes provided under "Submarine Escape and Diving." Entry will include the following: six-digit date designator (YR/MO/DA), location, qualification attained, and authentication (e.g., "011105/MCAS MIRAMAR/WSQ" (Medical Officer's signature only)).
3. Commands/Organizations/Activities without MCIWS's may request a Mobile Training Team (MTT) from Expeditionary Warfare Training Group Pacific (EWTGPAC) to conduct MCIWS courses/certification paid by the requesting unit at the requesting unit's location. MTT availability is subject to the established formal school training schedule and on-hand staff.
4. Combat Water Survival Qualification/re-qualification will be conducted/recorded on a calendar year basis (not fiscal year).

SAMPLE COPY OF ORDERS TO MCWST

1500
S-3

From: Commanding Officer, (S-3)
To: Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3 Training, Marine Corps Air
Station, Miramar

Subj: MARINE COMBAT WATER SURVIVAL TRAINING (MCWST)

Ref: (a) MCO 1500.52B
(b) StaO 1500.1A

Encl: (1) Roster of Personnel

1. In accordance with the references, the enclosure is submitted. Personnel assigned to training are to report to the Water Survival Training Facility no later than 0700 on _____. (Personnel not listed in the enclosure will not be accepted.)

2. Personnel are required to have the gear listed in enclosure (3) of reference (b). Upon completion of training, personnel will report back to their assigned work section.

B. A. MARINE

ENCLOSURE (2)

StaO 1500.1A

Roster of Personnel:

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>Inits</u>	<u>SSN</u>	<u>MOS</u>	<u>Qual</u>	<u>Date</u>
Maj	Marine	I.A.	000000001	0302	CWS2	021025
Capt	Leatherneck	I.B.	000000002	0180	WSQ	990413
MSgt	Sniper	W.H.	000000003	0311	CWS4	010828
GySgt	Grappler	F.A.	000000004	7542	UNQ	000000
LCpl	Happy	H.I.	000000005	2111	CWS1	981206

ENCLOSURE (2)

REQUIRED GEAR LIST FOR TRAINING

1. Marines assigned to Combat Water Survival Training are required to bring the following items:

- 1 Set of serviceable utilities blouse and trousers (used to swim in, may be woodland or poplin pattern.)
- 1 Swim attire or PT gear to wear under utilities.
- 1 Set of Boots. (used to swim in, may be either jungle or all leather.)
- 1 Towel
- 1 Set of dry clothes to change into when training is complete.
- 1 Trash bag to place wet gear into upon completion of training.

[illegible]

StaO 1500.1A
13 DEC 02

MARINE COMBAT WATER SURVIVAL TRAINING FACILITY
TRAINING SCHEDULE

MONDAY:	0600 - 0700	UNIT PT
	0700 - 1100	CONDUCT OF SWIM QUALIFICATION
	1100 - 1300	LAP SWIM (MCCS)
	1300 - COB	CONDUCT OF SWIM QUALIFICATION
TUESDAY:	0530 - 0630	UNIT PT
	0630 - 0730	UNIT PT
	0800 - 0900	REMEDIAL TRAINING (ALL LEVELS)
	0900 - 1100	POOL MAINT
	1100 - 1300	LAP SWIM (MCCS)
	1300 - 1600	POOL MAINT
WEDNESDAY:	0530 - 0730	LAP SWIM (MCCS)
	0800 - 0900	REMEDIAL TRAINING (ALL LEVELS)
	0900 - 1100	POOL MAINT
	1100 - 1300	LAP SWIM (MCCS)
	1300 - 1600	POOL MAINT
THURSDAY:	0530 - 0630	UNIT PT
	0630 - 0730	UNIT PT
	0800 - 0900	REMEDIAL TRAINING (ALL LEVELS)
	0900 - 1100	POOL MAINT
	1100 - 1300	LAP SWIM (MCCS)
	1300 - 1600	POOL MAINT
FRIDAY:	0530 - 0730	LAP SWIM (MCCS)
	0800 - 0900	REMEDIAL TRAINING (ALL LEVELS)
	0900 - 1100	POOL MAINT
	1100 - 1300	LAP SWIM (MCCS)
	1300 - 1600	POOL MAINT

- REMEDIAL TRAINING TIME MAY ALSO BE USED FOR THE CONDUCT OF SWIM QUALIFICATION.
- UNITS CANNOT PT DURING LAP SWIM HOURS.
- TO SCHEDULE UNIT PT CONTACT THE FACILITY STAFF AT 577-7918.
- RESERVE TRAINING MUST BE SCHEDULED BY CONTACTING THE FACILITY STAFF AT 577-7918.

ENCLOSURE (5)
Ch 1 (13 DEC 02)

StaO 1500.1A
13 DEC 02

MARINE COMBAT WATER SURVIVAL TRAINING FACILITY
RECREATION SCHEDULE

MONDAY:	1100 - 1300	LAP SWIM (MCCS)
TUESDAY:	1100 - 1300	LAP SWIM (MCCS)
	1300 - 1800	OPEN SWIM/LESSONS/YOUTH CAMP
WEDNESDAY:	0530 - 0730	LAP SWIM (MCCS)
	1100 - 1300	LAP SWIM (MCCS)
	1300 - 1800	OPEN SWIM/LESSONS/YOUTH CAMP
THURSDAY:	1100 - 1300	LAP SWIM (MCCS)
	1300 - 1800	OPEN SWIM/LESSONS/YOUTH CAMP
FRIDAY:	0530 - 0730	LAP SWIM (MCCS)
	1100 - 1300	LAP SWIM (MCCS)
	1300 - 1800	OPEN SWIM/LESSONS/YOUTH CAMP

ENCLOSURE (6)
Ch 1 (13 DEC 02)